AND 2 2 2006 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

: 09/206,852

Confirmation No. 6041

Applicant

: ALLISON, Richard F. et al.

Filed

: December 8, 1998

TC/A.U.

: 1638

Examiner

: Brendan O. Baggot

Docket No.

: 76999-4

Customer No.

: 07380

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

This letter is filed in response to the Office Action of March 30, 2006 and is accompanied by a petition for a two-month extension of time pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a) and fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(a).

Please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

Appendix begins on page 13 of this paper and contains references of interest.